Chatham Record

H. A. LONDON,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION,
$1.50 PER YEAR
Strictly in Advance.

The Chatham Record.

VOL. XXII. PITTSBORO, CHATHAM COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY, JUNE 7, 1900. NO. 12.

Chatham Record.

RATES
OF
ADVERTISING

One square, one insertion	$1.00
One square, two insertions	1.50
One square, one month	2.00

For larger advertisements liberal contracts will be made.

THE LOUISIANA AMENDMENT SAME

As Ours, and is Constitutional and Works Exceedingly Well.

THE OPERATION SATISFACTORY

To All Classes of White People—Eliminates the Negro, but Guarantees the Right to Vote to Every White Man.

The pending amendment in this State is a copy of the suffrage amendment in Louisiana except the property clause. The Constitutional Convention of Louisiana adopted the amendment in 1898. It went into effect soon after. There has been the fullest possible opportunity to study the question in all its details. The city elections were held in a year under the provisions of the new constitution. This year the State election was held under it. No word of complaint has been heard. No white man has stated that his right to vote has been denied. No test has been made of the question in the courts. So we take it that the working of the amendment in Louisiana will be the working in this State. It has stood a practical test there. In order that the people of this State might have the fullest information on this subject, Hon. Jeremiah Dodds, editor of the News and Observer, has been to the State of Louisiana and made a study of the question in all its bearings. He was especially active in seeking information as to whether white people are disfranchised. He brings from the South an interesting report. He interviewed men of every shade of political opinion. He did not confine his investigation to the towns. The County Parishes—our townships—were visited and people themselves searched on the subject. Attention is invited to some of the leading points taken from his articles. In the light of experience the people of Louisiana declare unanimously that their amendment was the only possible solution of the suffrage question, and the amendment is regarded as an entirely satisfactory solution of it.

The interviews had by him with well posted citizens of Louisiana bear on the following phases of the question:

1. Eliminating the Negro.

2. Guaranteeing the right to vote to every native white man, whether educated or not.

3. Eliminating reprehensible features from politics, and elevating politics and political action.

1. Eliminating the Negro.

"Among others in New Orleans I had a talk with Hon. John Fitzpatrick, who is a wealthy citizen and was a member of the convention that framed the Constitutional Amendment. He knows the ins and outs of the city politics. He said: 'The amendment works very well. It takes in every white, uneducated or not, who is registered under the grandfather clause. The practical effect in my ward was to reduce a negro registration of about 2,000 to 112. In St. Mary's Parish with a population of about 17,000 negroes and about 1,000 whites, only about one dozen negroes registered.'

"There were only 5,320 negroes registered in the State at the recent election. The purity of the negro vote took away entirely their importance as voters. They were not courted or sought after. As a natural result those who did register will have no incentive to do it again, and at the new registration after the present registration expires, which will be December 31st, 1900, there will be fewer negro voters who desire to register." Hon. H. C. Cage, of New Orleans.

"In this city the adoption of the Constitutional amendment, similar to the one pending in North Carolina, resulted in reducing the negro vote from 11,177 to 1,342. These are official figures, taken this morning from the books in the office of Mr. Jere M. Gleason, State Registrar of Voters, for the parish of Orleans.

"In November, 1899, the first election was held under the new Constitutional Amendment. The total registration was 38,961, of which number 1,368 were negroes, a reduction of the negro vote from the 1896 registration, which was the fullest known, of 12,709. This city election showed to the whole State the value of the amendment, and opened the way for the result seen in the State election held last month. The State election was held on the 17th of April. Registration closed on the 17th of March, as the law requires it to close thirty days before the election. The registration in the parish at embraces only the 17 wards in New Orleans; for the State election was 28,891, of which number 1,403 were negroes."—Hon. Jere M. Gleason, State Registrar of Voters for Orleans.

2. Guaranteeing the right to vote to every white man, whether educated or not.

"Under the Constitutional Amendment, by reason of section five, every uneducated man, who could vote in 1867, or who is a son or grand son of such voter could register on a permanent roll and vote as long as he lives, provided he registered on that roll by September 1, 1898. In this parish we took interest to see that every illiterate white man was registered under that section. I registered under it myself, and there were very few illiterates who did not avail themselves of this provision. The amendment works splendidly, the elections are fair, the educated and uneducated whites vote as heretofore, and there is better feeling in politics than for many years."—Judge L. P. Callonett.

"Prior to 1878, there were no public schools except mixed schools, open alike to white and negro children, and as the white people would not send to them, many children grew up without education. We were unwilling to disfranchise these neglected men or their children, the soldiers who followed Lee or the men who helped rescue the State in 1876. That is why we put in section five. The illiterate white voters are delighted with the amendment."—Hon. Thos. B. Badeaux.

"Nearly all the illiterate whites registered. As an example, I may mention that in ward five in a country township there are 540 voters. I know every man in the ward, about half of whom are uneducated. All registered except about twelve."—Sheriff James Beary.

"The amendment has more than met public expectations. Our elections, after it are closely contested and perfectly fair, white illiterates registered under section five and voted, few negroes vote, they are satisfied and there is good feeling between the races."—Hon. Andrew Price.

"In Lafayette, St. Martin's, Vermilion, the Acadian and other parishes there are many illiterates. Many of them are Creoles. There are no better citizens than the Creole regiments. They are men who, though illiterate, have all the civic virtues, take a keen interest in public affairs, and stood by good government all the way through. We could not disfranchise such true men and brave soldiers.

"The men enrolled under section five looked them in the forehead at the polls. It is a white man's man on an American poll. The late Hon. Thos. J. Semmes, President of the American Bar Association, registered under this clause. It is a roll of honor. Most of the illiterate white men of the State registered under this clause and are now permanent on the registration rolls."—Hon. H. C. Cage, of New Orleans.

I next asked Mr. Gleason this question:

"Have any illiterate white men in New Orleans been denied the privilege of voting because they could not read and write?"

He understood the question and made this answer:

"None whatever. Every white man who wants to vote is permitted to vote. Public sentiment is such that no man in politics would attempt to throw obstacles in the way of an illiterate white man's voting. Practically all who couldn't read and write registered under the grandfather clause in the time prescribed by law and are on a permanent roll of qualified voters, and are guaranteed the right to vote all their lives.

"No white men at me whatever have been disfranchised."

Mr. Gleason said: "It took two years to educate the people of Louisiana up to the point that it would not result in the disfranchisement of any white people. Now they all see it and like it and wouldn't go back to old conditions under any circumstances. This is as true of the uneducated portion as of the educated portion of our population."

3. Eliminating reprehensible features from politics and elevating politics and practical action.

Hon. Samuel L. Gilmore, City Attorney, and one of the leading men in New Orleans, speaking of what followed the practical workings of the amendment, said: "It has rendered our elections free from any just taint of fraud. It has worked well in every way, particularly in its beneficial effect felt in giving a higher tone to our politics. There has been no suspicion of irregularity in the two elections held under it. It has not only eliminated the negro vote, thus removing corruption and many evils, but has resulted in guaranteeing fair white primaries. The negro question has been eliminated. No one now thinks about the negro vote, and in fact very few of them care to vote."

Mr. Peter F. Pessod, a native of Raleigh, who is now one of the leading and influential citizens of New Orleans, told me that the amendment had worked well in every respect, and secured peaceful and fair elections, eliminated the negro from politics, and had not disfranchised any white man because of his lack of education and property. Mr. Pessod has been living here seventeen years and has made himself universally respected and popular, and is a business man of large interests and wide acquaintance. He says that he is in no sense a politician, taking only that part in politics that a good citizen is called upon to take. His characteristics are of great value and weight, particularly to North Carolinians who know him as an intelligent, careful and wise business man. Though a leader in Democratic financial circles, Mr. Pessod is proud that the far still stands to his home and he rejoices in whatever helps or blesses North Carolina. "The passage of the amendment," he said, "will eliminate the negro question and give the people freedom to think about the industrial expansion which promises so much for North Carolina."

One of the foremost editors of the foremost Gfrdlu cmfwyp vbgkqj rfdbi South is Major H. J. Hearsey, editor of the New Orleans State, the most ardent and vigorous advocate of White supremacy in this city of believers in the white man's party. I asked him how the amendment had operated and whether it had justified the expectations of its supporters. He said:

"It has worked admirably in the last two years. No agitation has been made of any fraud or wrong. It has put Louisiana on the old system of a white basis, brought it back to the era when it was noted far and near for the chivalry of its people and the bravery of its sons. Its adoption was a grand and magnificent revolution. It has put the State on the high road to prosperity, and I believe there is a higher tone in public life than in 20 years. There is a feeling of relief that the negro question has been eliminated and that we have returned to the old time honor."

"What has been the result of the adoption of your new constitution on the elections?" I asked Mr. Gleason. Here is his answer:

"Elections are now absolutely fair. The most bitter enemy has been unable to substantiate a charge of the least unfairness. The opposition, after election, were forced to say, 'We haven't a word to say.' There is not a suspicion of unfairness about our elections. I believe that the registration in this city is the cleanest of any city on the continent."

All trouble on farms and plantations has vanished.

"The Constitutional Amendment has brought about a better feeling in the state. In absolute and unquestioned control, the white men feel the responsibility of protecting the negro in all his rights. The white people of North Carolina, regardless of party, will miss an opportunity to put their politics on a higher plane if they do not adopt the amendment. They owe it to themselves and children to do what we have done. Here the negro is eliminated as an important political factor, fair elections serve no excuse for complaints, the white man and negro are on friendly terms, no native born illiterate white man loses his vote, and all these blessings have been brought about by the amendment."—Governor Foster.

"The elimination of the illiterate black vote in Louisiana has placed our politics upon a higher plane and ushered in a new era in our civic life."—Dr. C. Alphonso Smith, Professor of English in the University of Louisiana.

"The amendment has brought about a condition as if in 1896 the white electorate then existing had been maintained and the door opened to negro voters who possessed $300 worth of property or had reasonably good educational qualifications to become voters."—Hon. Leon Jastremski, Commissioner of Agriculture.

Senator Pritchard undertakes to say that the amendment in Louisiana has disfranchised the illiterate white vote, and to prove that he gives the white vote registered in 1896, and then shows the number of votes cast in the recent state election, and argues from this that the balance are disfranchised.

The books in the office of the Secretary of State in Baton Rouge show that in 1896 28,571 illiterate white men registered and made their mark to the application which the law of the State then required. In the April election of 1900, the books show that 31,079 registered under the grandfather clause. This shows that the illiterate white men were practically registered and any shortage in the registration was on the part of those who could read and write, and who were, of course, not disfranchised. They simply exercised their privilege not to register and vote in 1900 because they felt that there was no need of that called for it. The fact is that the vote in no State is even up to the registration. It falls as far short in Massachusetts as in Louisiana. In any given State the actual vote generally falls short of the registered vote. Say on to 75,000, and our registered vote is from 50,000 to 60,000 less than the number of men entitled to vote. This is so in nearly all the States in the Union. To illustrate: in Massachusetts in 1896 the registered vote was 805,000, and the actual vote cast in that year was 585,000. In Connecticut in 1896 the registered vote was 224,000, and the vote cast was 125,000. Does any one contend that those persons who were registered in these two States and did not vote that year were disfranchised?

But Hon. H. C. Cage, President of the Louisiana Senate, answers this charge of Senator Pritchard as follows:

"The only white illiterates disfranchised in Louisiana are those foreigners who were permitted under the constitution of 1879 to vote under a mere declaration of intention to become citizens. Of this number those who took few, but thousands remained to vote from 1879 to 1898 under their declaration of intention. This illustrates the foreign born vote, especially that portion which was Italian had gotten under the control of so-called political bosses, and a prejudice against it had aroused in the better element of the people second only in intensity to that against the negro vote and when the Constitutional Convention of 1898 undertook to eliminate the negro vote, there was, especially in the city of New Orleans, a determined demand that the illiterate, boss controlled foreign vote should be eliminated, and the effect of the suffrage provision was to eliminate every illiterate foreigner who had not been naturalized previous to January 1, 1898.

"The elimination of these thousands of illiterate foreigners, voting upon declaration of intention only, accounts for the falling off of the white registration in Louisiana.

"Every native born white man is in Louisiana, whether educated or uneducated, votes and is protected in his rights."

This statement fully accounts for the falling off of the registration there in 1900.

To People Demand It.

The editors of the black-and-tan party are crying through the State proclaiming that the Democrats in endorsing the amendment acted contrary to the popular demand. As a matter of fact, after the revolution in Wilmington and the terrible tension of October and November, 1898, there was a universal demand for the elimination of the negro, and leading Republicans and Democrats joined in that demand. Dr. Cyrus Thompson voiced what was universal when he said, shortly after the election:

"It is evident that he Democrats will have to eliminate the negro question now. I do not think that the people who have given the Democratic party power will be satisfied with anything else than the elimination of the negro from politics in North Carolina."

In view of the necessity of eliminating the negro vote the Legislature would have violated the trust and expectations of the people if they had not put it in the power of the voters to stop negro rule in North Carolina. The Legislature could not and did not disfranchise anybody. It submits to the voters whether they wish to be rid of the big negro vote which has been used for bad government and has engendered strife and trouble between the races.

FIRST OF ALL, WHITE

Manly Words of Leading Forsyth County Populists.

ONE WHO DOES HIS OWN THINKING

Mr. E. A Conrad Advocates the Amendment and Refuses to Permit Butler to Make Him a Traitor to His Race.

It is out of my line to write for publication, but since it has been currently reported in my county that there was a shade of doubt about my position on the constitutional amendment, I think it best to set such reports at rest, and give the public my position in that question.

I am a Populist. My principles are those enunciated in the National platform of that party, but first of all I am a white man.

So long as a drop of Anglo Saxon blood runs in my veins I shall resist the white race supremacy to the negro, and until some great change for the better takes place among the leaders, I shall continue to believe them unfit to dictate, consult, or even to advise the local, state or national affairs of this country.

To-day is the first plank in my political platform and I here and now make notice that I henceforth and forever sever my connection with any party of men, who by word or [illegible] platform countenance as will that Senator Butler at his late so called Populist convention at Raleigh where that they regard the negro, in any county the equal of the white race, advocate a policy as a fusion with a party or a set of men who, to retain office are going up and down the State inviting the white earnest leaders of my race, in effort to keep the negro vote and continue its demoralizing influence in our public affairs.

All true Populists are far from being in favor of negro equality and will not vote against making white supremacy permanent, and eliminate the race question from politics, relegate the negro to his proper place, which is to the rear in politics and society. He will then cease to be a fool, will become a useful and law abiding citizen.

With this question out of politics the white vote would divide; a party would have to depend upon the merits of its policy, the integrity of its leaders and candidates, and politics would be purified and honest white men be set free. As a consequence Populist I cannot see how we could ask for any better hope than that of a fair chance to test the wisdom of our principles before the untrammelled vote of liberty loving white men and this we can never do so long as the negro stands a factor, to profit by our divisions or seduce our leaders into delivering us into the hands of the enemies of our party and our State. Here are we Populists, advocating and hoping for clean and honest politics and our self-constituted office holding leaders are trying to use us as a club to crack the heads of our own race on a question that is to determine the purity of our principles and our civilization for all time. We advocate free silver, and this same crowd for the second time proposes to have us line up with the Republican party, which has not only cut the throat of silver but enters on the campaign a professed defender and advocate of a continuation of the negro in power in North Carolina. Such as this is a stench in my nostrils.

They try to dodge this issue. One of the wide-between the horns fusionists, who has just had to drop a mouth full of public fodder, and it was even then watering with a meagre hope of more by way of the negro vote, said to me only yesterday: "How can you discriminate against the negro on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude?" That's pure stuff. The amendment is framed to prevent that very thing and he knew it. Our white loving statesmen in the Legislature guarded against that breach of the words of the Federal Constitution and only discriminated against the peculiar attributes of the race, not singling out anybody or any class of people. The Supreme Court of the United States says that you can do this, and every intelligent man has read of that decision.

Senator Cullom, a great Republican, in his report of the Hawaiian Commission, says: "The American idea of suffrage presupposes that the body of citizens who are to exercise it in a free and independent manner, have by inheritance or education such knowledge and appreciation of the responsibilities of free suffrage, and of a full participation in the sovereignty of the country as to be able to maintain a Republican form of government." Now the North Carolina amendment proposes what Republican leader Cullom says the Constitution pre-supposes, let all white men vote by inheritance, and as to [illegible] not having capacity by intelligence, must vote by education, or not at all. Mr. Editor, this amendment will bring our Constitution more in accord with the divine law itself which has made the white man as greatly superior to the negro, and on this solid rock I plant my feet in this present campaign, and propose to stand and vie with my race.

I aided in organizing the Populist party in 1892, to secure reforms which were thought could only be accomplished by a new party pledged to those reforms. Prominent among these was a demand for an expansion of our currency system, which resulted in an issue in 1891 and 1896 for the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

In 1894 there was an agreement between the "bosses" of the Populist and Republican parties to put out a joint ticket. The fusion was mixed up to Guy Watson, the purest and strongest anti-trust and free silver man in the State, was defeated for governor, and [illegible] Butler, a silver man, was elected to the Senate for six years and Pritchard, who stands for trusts, monopolies, gold bugism and now for the negro against the white man, was elected for eight years.

So that while in 1896 the State was carried for fusionism by the majority of the white vote, the colored people vote elected the fusion ticket and legislature, and our principles defeated by 12,000 majority and placing North Carolina [illegible] under negro domination, as [illegible] to the gold standard a vote in the Senate for eight years and Mr. Butler and Pritchard in the meantime securing two splendid offices which they are desperately trying to hold on to. Mr. Pritchard, the gold and trust apostle, and Mr. Butler, the silver professor, are fighting the same battle now, hoping thereby to perpetuate their place and power through the demoralization of their parties by the unthinkable combination of the negro vote and negro domination.

This Mr. Butler being the cause and direful condition of the political [illegible] of our Populist party is [illegible] abomination for its presence. I thank you Mr. Editor, for space for me please.

Very truly,
E. A. CONRAD.

What a Good Citizen Can Do

We copy from the Atlanta Journal the following letter from [illegible] Journal, an old time editor and chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Forsyth county. We congratulate it and Chairman Joyner on the well work which has been done. We know it is a good chairman and he deserved his election. We know [illegible] is known [illegible] Forsyth county is [illegible] in being [illegible] men who [illegible] to [illegible] for [illegible] a change [illegible] vote.

The Post congratulates the Democrats of Forsyth and its worthy chairman.

Mr. Joyner says:

Editors Sentinel:

"In keeping with my [illegible] pledge, I desire to publicly return the thanks of the Executive Committee of the Democratic party of Forsyth county, to those speakers who laid down their business on last Saturday, closed their offices on a busy day, and filled the appointments made for them by the Committee.

"The names of these gentlemen are C. B. Watson, L. M. Swaim, Clement Manly, Frank T. Bralsford, Walter G. Cox, E. A. Gribble, A. H. Eller, W. M. Henderson and J. R. Whitaker.

"At not a single meeting were the people disappointed in having a speaker, except at two places, and it was no fault of the chairmen that was so, for he was not notified by the gentlemen as signed to those places that they could not fill the appointment.

"I venture to say that no county in North Carolina can boast a finer display of devotion to the cause of white supremacy than this cheerful compliance by these gentlemen with the request of the committee, and I am sure that the large audience they spoke to and the hearty ovation the people gave them everywhere, will stimulate others all over the county to earnest, faithful, unselfish work for the cause most dear to every true white man.

"I wish to take this occasion on behalf of the committee also to the citizens of every township for giving these speakers such a good turnout, and such patient hearing, as well as for the formation of a White Man's Club and the election of a wide-awake Executive Committee in every solitary township in Forsyth county.

"I honestly believe it was the best day's organization work ever done in any county, and I am glad of this opportunity of returning thanks therefor.

"Respectfully and gratefully,
"ANDREW JOYNER,
"Chairman Ex. Committee.

"P. S.—As an instance of the splendid work of the county secretaries of these meetings, I had full reports from every one of them, with the names of delegates, alternates, executive committees and white man's club officers signed and certified, and in my office by 12 o'clock Monday, many of them coming in Saturday night's mail. For all of which many thanks.—Raleigh Post Dispatch.

Politics and Politicians.

Nearly two weeks have elapsed since State Chairman Simmons (Dem.) wrote to State Chairman Hinton (Rep.) proposing a joint canvass of the State by the committees on the Democratic and Republican tickets, to discuss the amendment.

As yet no reply has been received to this invitation. One is expected however, to-day as Holton was in Tuesday in consultation with Republican and other Republican leaders.

A Republican is responsible for the statement that the Populists had tried to pull Holton out of the hole by inviting a joint canvass between Holton and Russell in some [illegible] And this, it is said, was after a previous understanding between the Republican and Populist chairmen, in order to give Holton a chance to reply to Mr. Simmons that as the Republicans have been challenged by both the Democrats, the Populists cannot now [illegible] one without accepting the other, and that of course it will be impossible for the Republican candidate to be at two places at the same time, so we will further state, it is thought, that the Republican candidates are perfectly willing and anxious for a joint discussion and will meet both the Democratic and Populist candidates together if they will then suggest that the State chairmen of the Democratic, Populist and Republican parties meet in Raleigh on some given date and arrange a list of places in North Carolina where the candidates of all three parties can meet in joint discussion on the same day.

How much truth there is in this remains to be seen.

Tommy—"Pop, what's the difference between a habit and a vice?" Tommy's Pop—"Habits, my son, are our own frailties; vices are those of other people."

WOMAN'S WORLD.

PHOEBE A. HEARST.

A Missouri Girl Who Became Famous—Her Reception in Chickens.

"About fifty years ago Mrs. Hearst was born in Missouri. Her name was Phoebe Apperson, and she came of good Southern stock, her father a Virginian, her mother a South Carolinian. Her parents and the parents of Mr. Hearst were neighbors, and the little girl born to the Appersons was named for Mrs. Hearst, mother of the boy who was to be her husband. Young Hearst went to California, found success, and returned to claim his Missouri sweetheart for his wife, taking her to California while she was still in pinafores. Educated in Europe, her position as the wife of one of the richest men in the United States has not changed her in the least, and she is as unaffected and simple in her manners as she was when a child. Mrs. Hearst is a woman of rare intellectuality, and has a wide knowledge of literature, science and art. She is a liberal patron of all these, and has a fine collection of paintings, which she has gathered in her travels. She has also a fine collection of rare books, and when in Washington spends much time in the library. Mrs. Hearst is a woman of strong character, and has a will of her own. She is a good business woman, and has managed her own affairs for many years. She is a good talker, and is interesting in conversation. She is known [illegible] as a liberal giver to charity, [illegible] a change [illegible] wife.

The Post congratulates the Democrats of Forsyth and its worthy